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NO. 77

12¢

HOUSE of SECRETS

Featuring



ECLIPSO

HERO and VILLAIN in ONE MAN!

PRINCE RA-MAN

MIND MASTER

ONLY RA-MAN STANDS
BETWEEN THE THREE
VULKANTI AND THE DOOM
THEY THREATEN THE WORLD WITH...

"The 7 CIRCLES of EVIL!"



BORN OF THE AWESOME FORCES UNLEASHED DURING AN ECLIPSE, ECLIPSO HAS PROVED A VILLAIN OF DARKEST HUE! BUT NOW THE NOTORIOUS SPLIT MAN COMPOUNDS HIS MENACE BY CONJURING UP ALLIES WHO POSSESS POWERS EVEN MORE STARTLING THAN THOSE OF ECLIPSO HIMSELF!... AND ONLY ONE MAN, DR. BRUCE GORDON, STANDS BETWEEN HUMANITY AND THE EVIL THREATENED BY HIS OWN OTHER IDENTITY--

THE MOON CREATURES



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IT IS NIGHT, AND A VIRILE VOICE IS HEARD...



THE VERY HEAVENS CONSPIRE AGAINST ME!

WHERE ARE WE? IN THE STARRY COSMOS? NO-- THE FAST LAB COMPLEX OF DR. BRUCE GORDON, BENEFACITOR OF HUMANITY, AND THE WORLD'S STRANGEST HERO...



BRUCE... WHAT DID YOU SAY...?

JUST VOICING MY BITTERNESS, MONA HONEY! THE HEAVENS-- THAT IS, THE HEAVENLY BODIES, DO CONSPIRE AGAINST ME!

YES, BRUCE, TOMORROW A SOLAR ECLIPSE WILL SPLIT ECLIPSO OFF FROM YOU AGAIN-- WE'D BETTER BE PREPARED AND GET A GOOD NIGHT'S SLEEP! SEE YOU TWO LOVEBIRDS IN THE MORNING!

GOODNIGHT, PROFESSOR!

'NIGHT, DAD!



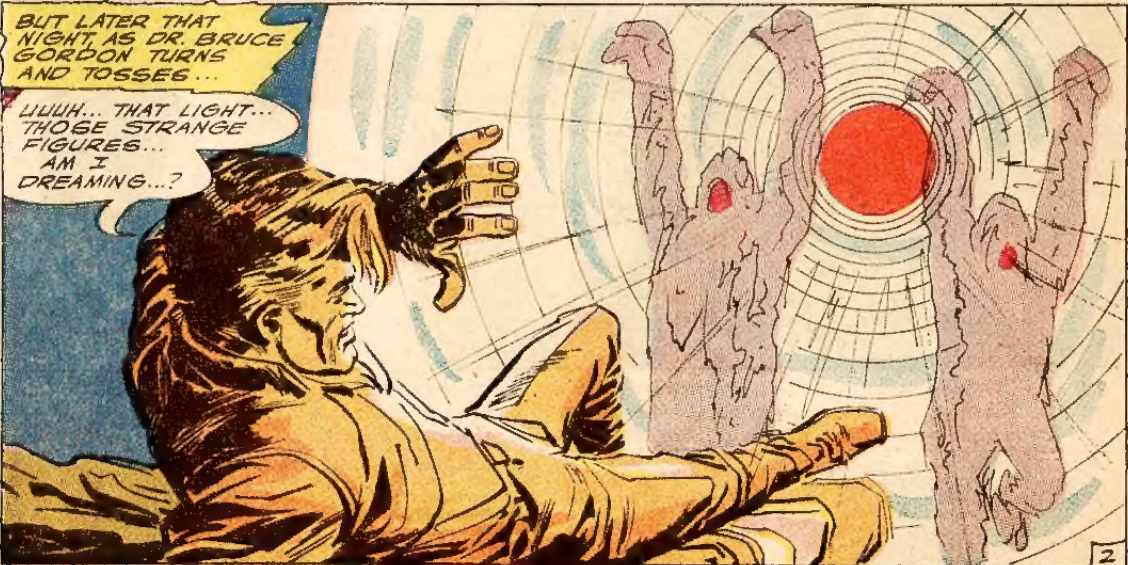
OH, DARLING, ECLIPSO'S LIKE SOME TERRIBLE SHADOW OVER OUR LIVES... DESTROYING OUR HAPPINESS!

I KNOW, MONA, BUT DON'T WORRY! WE'LL SEND OLD "DOUBLE FACE" RIGHT BACK WHERE HE CAME FROM TOMORROW! GOODNIGHT, SWEETS...



BUT LATER THAT NIGHT, AS DR. BRUCE GORDON TURNS AND TOSSES...

LIUUH... THAT LIGHT... THOSE STRANGE FIGURES... AM I DREAMING...?



AND THEN...

AIIEEEE!
NO! NO!

THE NEXT MORNING...

DAD!
DAD!
BRUCE
IS
GONE!

WH-WHAT? BUT HE
CAN'T BE! HE KNOWS
TODAY IS THE ECLIPSE
AND IT WOULD BE
DISASTROUS FOR HIM
TO LEAVE THE LAB!

DAD--LOOK!
THESE WEIRD
FOOTPRINTS
IN THE FLOOR
DUST! SOME
AWFUL THINGS
HAVE CARRIED
HIM OFF!

GOOD STARS!
BUT... BUT THERE'S
NO SIGN OF A
STRUGGLE, AND
BRUCE IS TOO
FORMIDABLE TO
BE OVERPOWERED
EASILY!

WHATEVER'S HAPPENED--
WE MUST FIND
BRUCE, AND QUICKLY.
IF THAT ECLIPSE
OCCURS AND HE'S
NOT HERE TO BE
BOMBARDED WITH
HIGH PHOTON
LIGHT-- ECLIPSO
WILL BE LOOSE
ON THE WORLD
AGAIN!

BUT AS MONA AND THE PROFESSOR
RACE AWAY...

-- WE INTERRUPT THIS
PROGRAM FOR AN IMPORTANT
BULLETIN! THE ARCH-
CRIMINAL ECLIPSO
WAS SIGHTED IN THE
CITY THIS MORNING!
ALL CITIZENS ARE
WARNED TO...

ECLIPSO LOOSE ALREADY!
BUT IT'S NOT POSSIBLE
THE ECLIPSE ISN'T DUE
FOR HOURS YET!

GREAT
GUNS!

HAVE YOU GUESSED THE FANTASTIC ANSWER? IF YOU HAVEN'T-- LET'S OBSERVE AN AMUSEMENT PARK CLOSED FOR THE SEASON...

HA! HA! HA! SUCCESS! YOU'VE DONE IT, MY CREATURES! YOU'VE ENABLED ME TO OUTWIT BRUCE GORDON COMPLETELY!

CLOSED

LUNAR PARK

YOU GAVE US LIFE, MASTER-- WE OF THE MOON ARE YOURS TO COMMAND!

GORDON NEVER SUSPECTED THAT DURING ONE OF MY PREVIOUS APPEARANCES I PERFORMED A CERTAIN "EXPERIMENT" IN MY ISLAND LAB...

"LITTLE DID HE REALIZE THAT I HAD DISCOVERED A FRAGMENT BROKEN OFF FROM THE MOON, AND EXTRACTED FROM IT A TINY QUANTITY OF MOON DUST..."

REACTING TOGETHER WITH CERTAIN RARE EARTHS AND CHEMICALS IN THESE COCOONS, IT WILL BRING FORTH THE FIRST MOON CREATURES EVER SEEN ON THIS WORLD!

"BY MATHEMATICAL ANALYSIS, I HAD DEDUCED THAT SUCH CREATURES COULD BE BROUGHT FORTH--EVEN THOUGH ON THE MOON ITSELF, THEY ONLY EXISTED INERTLY..."

"THEN I PLACED YOU BOTH IN THE DEEPEST PART OF THE ISLAND'S UNDERGROUND TUNNELS, WHERE EVEN THE BOMBING THAT DESTROYED MY LAB COULD NOT TOUCH YOU..."

NOW, A "BLACK LIGHT" TREATMENT TO BEGIN THE HATCHING PROCESS-- SUCH CREATURES NEED THE OPPOSITE OF HEAT FOR GERMINATION!

"OF COURSE WHEN YOU 'HATCHED OUT'-- YOU HAD BEEN ALREADY 'PROGRAMMED' TO CARRY OUT YOUR MISSION-- THE ABDUCTION OF BRUCE GORDON..."

AIEEEEE!

AS THE MASTER PREDICTED--AN ARTIFICIAL ECLIPSE CHANGES THE EARTHLING'S FORM...!

THOUGH I WAS ONLY TEMPORARILY CHANGED INTO MY OWN IDENTITY, IT WAS LONG ENOUGH TO REACH THIS HIDEOUT AND PREPARE FOR THE REAL ECLIPSE WHICH WILL SOON COME!

AND HARDLY HAS THE GENIUS OF EVIL SPOKEN THAN...

AAAAH--! IT WEARS OFF--I'M REVERTING TO GORDON AGAIN! QUICKLY, MY CREATURES--

AS YOU COMMAND, MASTER!

THEN...

WHERE AM I? YOU HORRIBLE THINGS...? WHAT DO YOU WANT OF ME?

WHAT DO WE WANT, EARTHLING? ONLY THAT YOU ENDURE THE POWER OF THE ECLIPSE, SO THAT OUR MASTER ECLIPSO LIVES AGAIN!

GREAT STARS! THAT CUNNING FIEND--ECLIPSO! HE'LL SPLIT OFF FROM ME WHEN THE REAL ECLIPSE OCCURS--AND I'M HELPLESS... NOTHING I CAN DO TO STOP HIM!...

BUT THE STRUGGLES OF THE YOUNG SCIENTIST ARE USELESS AS ONCE MORE THE UNIVERSE'S MOST AWESOME EVENT -- A SOLAR ECLIPSE -- BEGINS...

TWO PEOPLE WATCH THE ECLIPSE WITH HORROR-FILLED EYES...

AND AS DR. BRUCE GORDON SLUMPS IN A TRANCE...



NO! THIS CAN'T HAPPEN...! IT CAN'T... AIEEEE!

IT'S BEGUN-- AND SOMEWHERE BRUCE IS SPLITTING INTO TWO BEINGS-- ECLIPSO AND HIMSELF-- AND WE'RE NOT THERE TO HELP HIM!

OH, DAD, WHAT CAN WE DO?



AGAIN, I STAND BEFORE YOU, MY CREATURES, AND THIS TIME PERMANENTLY! NOW TO PUT THE NEXT PART OF MY PLAN INTO ACTION...



LATER, AS PROFESSOR BENNET AND MONA SEARCH RELENTLESSLY...

BUT THEN, AS THE PAIR RETURNS TO THE LAB COMPLEX...

MOMENTS LATER, IN THE QUIET OF THE GREAT UNDERGROUND RESEARCH SET-UP...



DAD, IT SEEMS HOPELESS! BRUCE COULD BE ANYWHERE!

I KNOW, HONEY-- AND BY NOW HE'S PROBABLY A PRISONER OF ECLIPSO, SINCE IT'S OBVIOUS THAT FIEND PLANNED THIS WHOLE INCREDIBLE SCHEME TO DEFEAT OUR USUAL METHODS OF OVERCOMING HIM!



DAD, LOOK IT'S BRUCE...!

THANK THE STARS, HE MUST'VE ESCAPED! LOOKS IN BAD SHAPE!

BRUCE BOY! WHAT HAPPENED--? ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

I'M A BIT SHAKY-- BUT OKAY, PROFESSOR! IT WAS A REAL STRUGGLE ESCAPING... YOU PROBABLY FIGURED OUT HOW ECLIPSO OUTSMARTED US! BUT NOW WE'VE GOT TO STOP HIM FROM CARRYING OUT A SCHEME SO TERRIBLE I SHUDDER TO TELL YOU!





OH, DARLING-- JUST LET ME KISS YOU TO MAKE SURE YOUR RETURN ISN'T ALL JUST A WONDERFUL DREAM I'M HAVING!



OKAY, PROFESSOR-- HERE'S OUR BATTLE PLAN! WE'VE GOT TO HIT ECLIPSO NOW-- BEFORE HE GETS INTO ACTION! LOAD UP ON LIGHT GRENADES AND WE'LL HEAD STRAIGHT FOR HIS HIDEOUT!

RIGHT!



SHORTLY...

WE'LL ENTER HERE-- AND CATCH HIM OFF GUARD! READY?

READY! WHAT A HIDEOUT-- ECLIPSO'S IDEA OF AN IRONIC JOKE, NO DOUBT!

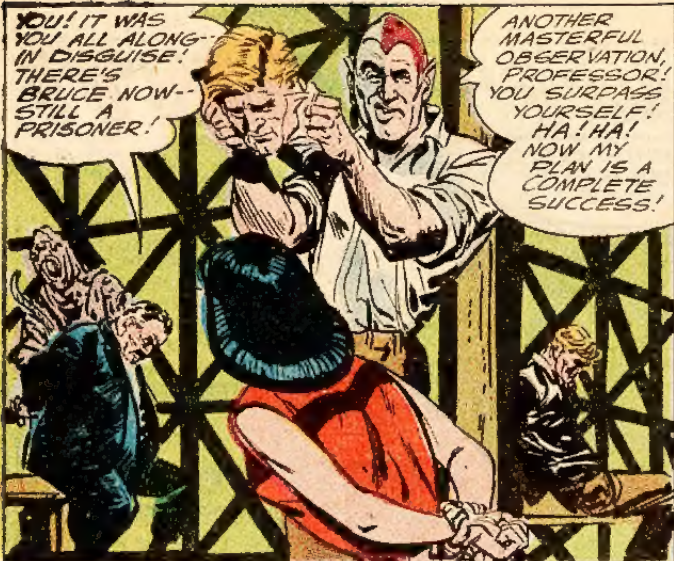


QUICKLY PROFESSOR BENNET AND MONA FOLLOW HIM THROUGH THE TRAP DOOR AND...

DAD-- LOOK OUT! OOOH!

CREATURES... WEIRD CREATURES SEIZING US! THE ONES WHO MUST'VE AIDED ECLIPSO'S ESCAPE!

HA! HA! BRILLIANT DEDUCTION, MY DEAR PROFESSOR!



YOU! IT WAS YOU ALL ALONG IN DISGUISE! THERE'S BRUCE NOW-- STILL A PRISONER!

ANOTHER MASTERFUL OBSERVATION, PROFESSOR! YOU SURPASS YOURSELF! HA! HA! NOW MY PLAN IS A COMPLETE SUCCESS!



THE ONLY THREE PEOPLE WHO CAN POSSIBLY DEFEAT ME-- WHO KNOW MY ONE WEAKNESS-- ARE NOW SAFELY OUT OF THE WAY! AND IT WAS ALL SO EASY!

YES, YOU'VE WON THIS ROUND, ECLIPSO... BUT YOU CAN'T TAKE ON THE WHOLE WORLD! NO, NOT EVEN YOU...!



CAN'T I? COME MY CREATURES-- IT IS TIME TO RAISE AN ARMY OF YOUR BROTHERS! WE'RE GOING TO MAKE SOME MOON OBSERVATIONS!

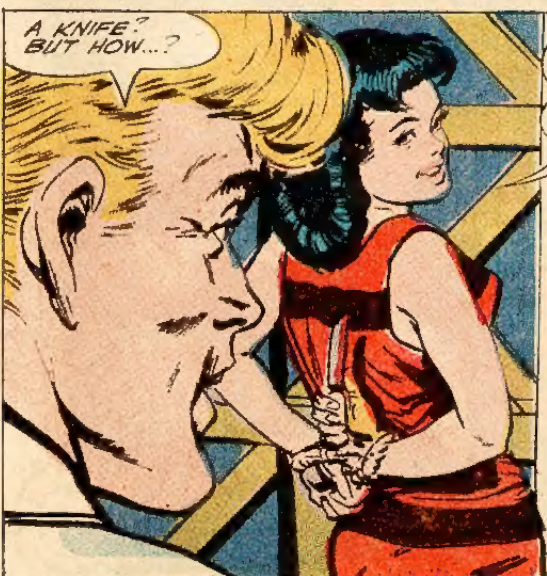


AND WHEN THE GENIUS OF EVIL AND HIS BIZARRE ACCOMPLICES ARE GONE...

WHAT... WHAT FANTASTIC THREAT WAS HE HINTING AT?

IF IT IS WHAT I THINK IT IS, PROFESSOR, IT'S BIGGER THAN ALL OF ECLIPSO'S OTHER MENACES TOGETHER! BUT WE'RE ABSOLUTELY POWERLESS TO STOP HIM...

YOU MASTERFUL MALES MAY BE POWERLESS-- BUT I'M NOT!



A KNIFE? BUT HOW...?



HOW DID I KNOW TO BRING IT ALONG, DARLING? SIMPLE! A KISS TOLD ME! WHEN I KISSED ECLIPSO DISGUISED AS YOU, HIS LIPS SEEMED COLD... INHUMAN...! I PURPOSELY LET HIM LEAD US TO HIS HIDEOUT!

DARLING, BESIDES BEING BEAUTIFUL, YOU ARE ABSOLUTELY CLEVER!

THANK YOU, LOVE, BUT ANY GIRL WOULD'VE NOTICED THE SAME THING! ECLIPSO, FOR ALL HIS BRAINS, KNOWS NOTHING OF FEMALE INTUITION! THERE....!



MEANTIME AT A LONELY OBSERVATORY WHERE ADVANCED ASTRONOMY EXPERIMENTS ARE CARRIED ON...



QUIET NIGHT, BILL! GUESS THE BIG DOME'S INSIDE ARE GETTIN' A REAL GOOD LOOK AT THE OLD MOON!

YEAH, ED! SHE SURE LOOKS SWEET AND PEACEFUL UP THERE!

SUDDENLY...

HOLY HANNAH! WHAT... WHAT IN THE WORLD ARE THOSE CHARACTERS? STOP 'EM!... THAT WEIRD BOZO-- IT'S ECLIPSO! HE'S BUSTIN' A HOLE IN THE FENCE!

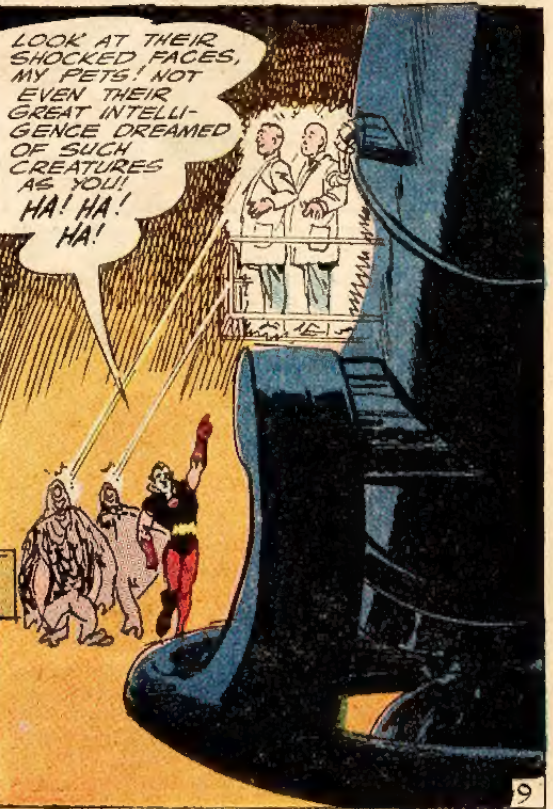


BUT THE NEXT MOMENT...

FOOLS! HOW CAN YOUR PUNY WEAPONS MATCH THE HYPNOTIC POWER OF MY MOONLINGS? THERE-- TRANSFIXED LIKE STATUES!



AND AS THE BIZARRE TRIO BURSTS INTO THE OBSERVATORY ITSELF...



LOOK AT THEIR SHOCKED FACES, MY PETS! NOT EVEN THEIR GREAT INTELLIGENCE DREAMED OF SUCH CREATURES AS YOU! HA! HA! HA!

NOW TO USE THIS GIANT TELESCOPE'S IMMENSE LIGHT-GATHERING POWERS TO CONCENTRATE MOON RAYS--AND WITH ONE OF MY MOONLINGS IN FOCUS AS A PROTOTYPE, I WILL PRODUCE AN ENTIRE ARMY OF CREATURES! AN ARMY THAT WILL BE INVINCIBLE AGAINST HUMAN FOES!

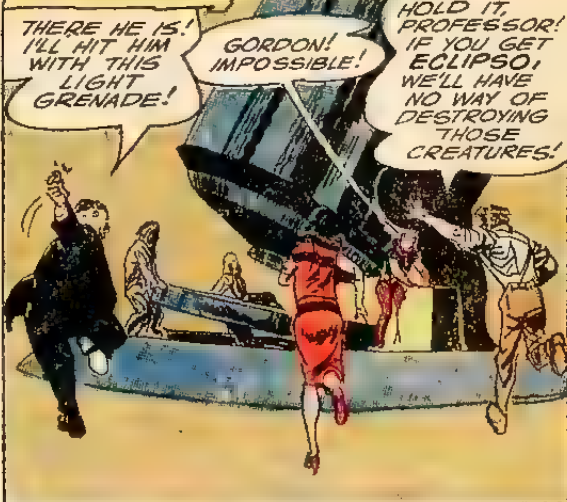


BUT BEFORE THE INCREDIBLE SCHEME CAN BE STARTED...

THERE HE IS! I'LL HIT HIM WITH THIS LIGHT GRENADE!

GORDON! IMPOSSIBLE!

HOLD IT, PROFESSOR! IF YOU GET ECLIPSO, WE'LL HAVE NO WAY OF DESTROYING THOSE CREATURES!



AND AS PROFESSOR BENNET HESITATES...

YOUR POWERS, MY PETS! HIT THEM WITH YOUR POWERS!

GOOD GRIEF! HYPNOTIC BEAMS! THAT'S WHAT MUST'VE KAYOED THE GUARDS AND ASTRONOMERS!



MONA... PROFESSOR BENNET-- FROZEN INTO LIFELESS TRANCES! GOT TO KEEP OUT OF RANGE--OF THOSE MOON CREATURES' FANTASTIC POWERS!



LIKE A HUNTED THING, THE YOUNG SCIENTIST FLEES THROUGH THE OBSERVATORY CORRIDORS...

THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY TO DESTROY THOSE CREATURES-- BUT I'LL NEED ECLIPSO'S COOPERATION!... WHEW-- THAT WAS CLOSE!



THEN, AS BRUCE RACES DOWN
A PASSAGEWAY LEADING
INTO A LARGE ROOM...

ECLIPSO'S SHADOW!
HE'S WAITING TO AMBUSH
ME! WITH HIS MOON
GOONS BEHIND ME...
I'M TRAPPED...
UNLESS...



WITHOUT HESITATING, THE
YOUNG SCIENTIST SPRINTS
STRAIGHT AHEAD AND...

FOOL! HOW COULD YOU
HOPE TO ESCAPE? MY
BLACK LIGHT WILL
BLIND YOU UNTIL MY
MOONLINGS RENDER
YOU HELPLESS WITH
THEIR HYPNOBEAM!

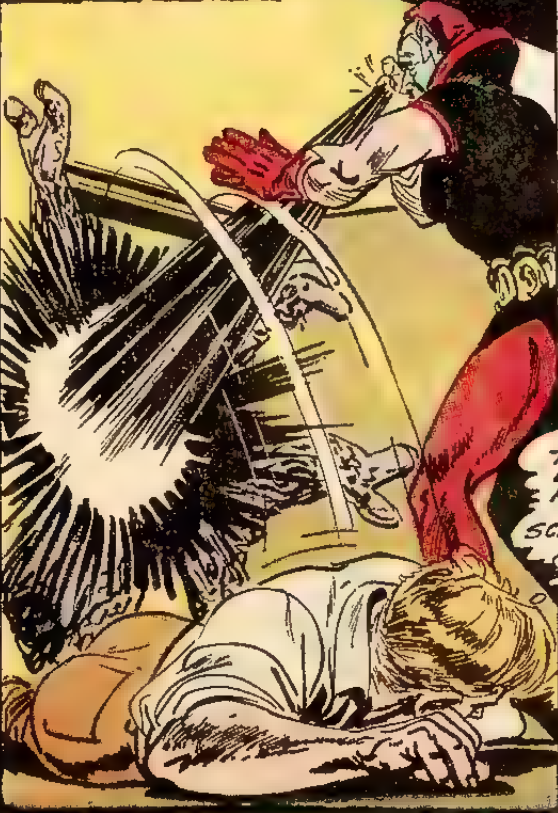


AS THE CONE OF DARK
DARKNESS ENVELOPS HIM,
BRUCE FLATTENS AND
ROLLS LIKE A GI UNDER
SHELLFIRE...

NOW, IF MY TWO
PURSUING FALS WILL,
ONLY COOPERATE--!



THE NEXT INSTANT...



WH-WHAT? MY
CREATURES--
CAUGHT IN THE
BLACK LIGHT-FADING!
GORDON TRICKED
ME! THERE HE IS!

CHECK, AND
THERE YOU
ARE--RIGHT
IN MY
SIGHTS!

THEY
DID--
RIGHT
ON
SCHEDULE!



AND BEFORE THE ARCH-FIEND CAN SHIFT HIS BLACK GEM'S POWERS...

LIGHT-- MY NEMESIS!
AIEEEE!

TAZAP

AS THE HIGH INTENSITY FLASH PERMEATES EVERY MOLECULE OF THE MASTER OF DARKNESS...

ECLIPSO--RETURNING TO MY BODY-- AND THOSE MOON CREATURES GONE! LUCKY FOR ME THAT ECLIPSO BOASTED NOW HE HATCHED THEM! I FIGURED THAT ANOTHER BLAST OF HIS BLACK LIGHT WOULD ACT LIKE AN OVER-DOSE AND DESTROY THEM!

THEN... MONA! PROFESSOR! WITH THOSE MOON CREATURES DESTROYED, THEIR TRANCE IS BROKEN, TOO!

DARLING-- ECLIPSO... IS HE...?

BRUCE! WH-WHAT HAPPENED?

ECLIPSO'S GONE... GONE UNTIL THE NEXT TIME THE HEAVENS CALL HIM FORTH TO FULFILL HIS DARK DESTINY!

THE END

IF YOU, LIKE THOUSANDS OF OTHERS, ARE WONDERING WHAT FANTASTIC THREATS ECLIPSO WILL UNLEASH NEXT--REMEMBER, THE DOOR'S ALWAYS OPEN TO CHILLS AND THRILLS IN EVERY ISSUE OF "HOUSE OF SECRETS"! DON'T MISS IT!

SO YOU NEVER HEARD OF THE VULKANTI? THEN, LIKE OTHER MORTALS, YOU AREN'T AWARE OF THE TERRIBLE THREATS FROM THE UNKNOWN THAT CONSTANTLY MENACE THIS WORLD! AND, AFTER READING THIS SPINE-CHILLER, YOU'LL THANK YOUR LUCKY STARS THAT WE'VE GOT PRINCE RA-MAN, THE MIND MASTER, FIGHTING FOR US TO PREVENT THE AWESOME EXISTENCE OF THE...

SEVEN CIRCLES OF EVIL!



IMPUDENT FOOL!
FEEL THE
GREATEST POWER
OF THE VULKANTI!
THE POWER OVER
THE ITSELF!
HA! HA! HA! HA!

OOOHH!
RA-MAN!
HE'S BEING
HURLED
BACK A
THOUSAND
YEARS
INTO
LIMBO!

NIGHT, AND WHERE LIGHTNING PLAYS WITH DEVASTATING FINGERS OVER THE MANSION ON MYSTERY HILL...



EVIL... EVIL IS THREATENING-- I FEEL IT! GREAT IMMOTEP MY ANCESTOR, CALLS ME ACROSS THE DIMENSIONAL VOID-- HE'S TRYING TO TELL ME SOMETHING...

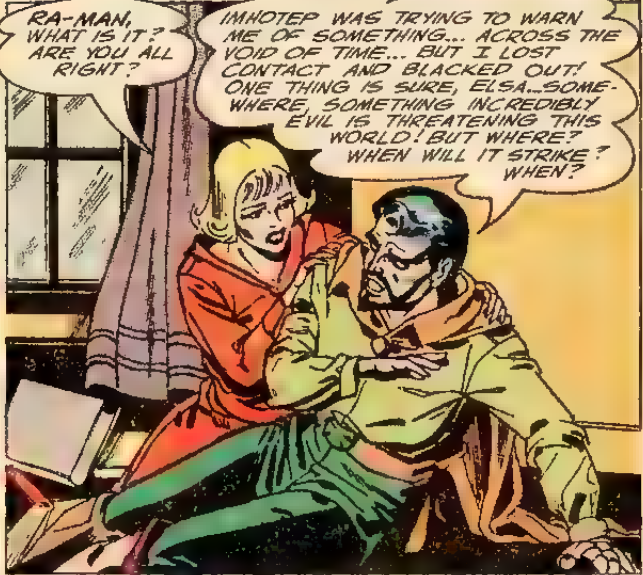


FOR A MOMENT, THE FABULOUS BRAIN OF PRINCE RA-MAN, MIND MASTER, STRAINS TO BRIDGE THE BARRIERS BETWEEN THE WORLDS-- AND THEN...



EVIL... MUST STOP IT... UULINHHH!

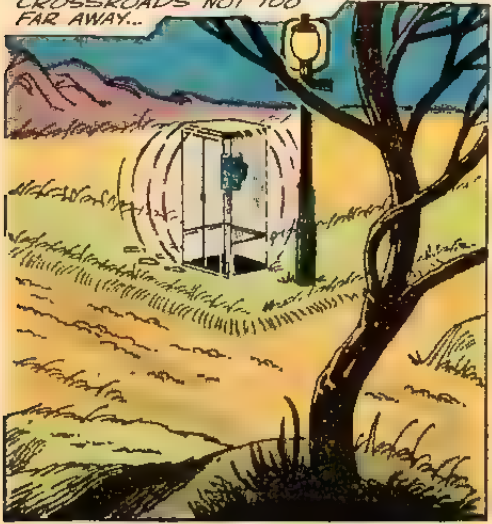
RA-MAN!



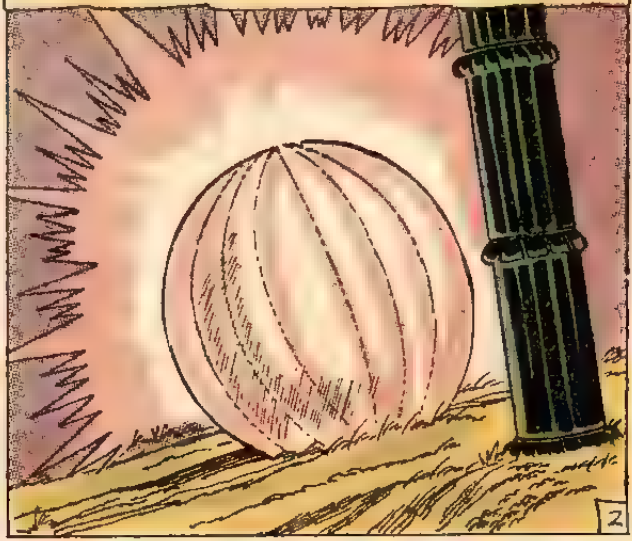
RA-MAN, WHAT IS IT? ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

IMMOTEP WAS TRYING TO WARN ME OF SOMETHING... ACROSS THE VOID OF TIME... BUT I LOST CONTACT AND BLACKED OUT! ONE THING IS SURE, ELSA... SOMEWHERE, SOMETHING INCREDIBLY EVIL IS THREATENING THIS WORLD! BUT WHERE? WHEN WILL IT STRIKE? WHEN?

BUT NOT EVEN THE OCCULT POWERS OF THE UNIQUE MIND MASTER CAN SEE A PHONE BOOTH AT A DESERTED CROSSROADS NOT TOO FAR AWAY...



... AS IT BECOMES SOMETHING NOT OF THIS WORLD-- A WARP BETWEEN THIS WORLD AND ANOTHER!



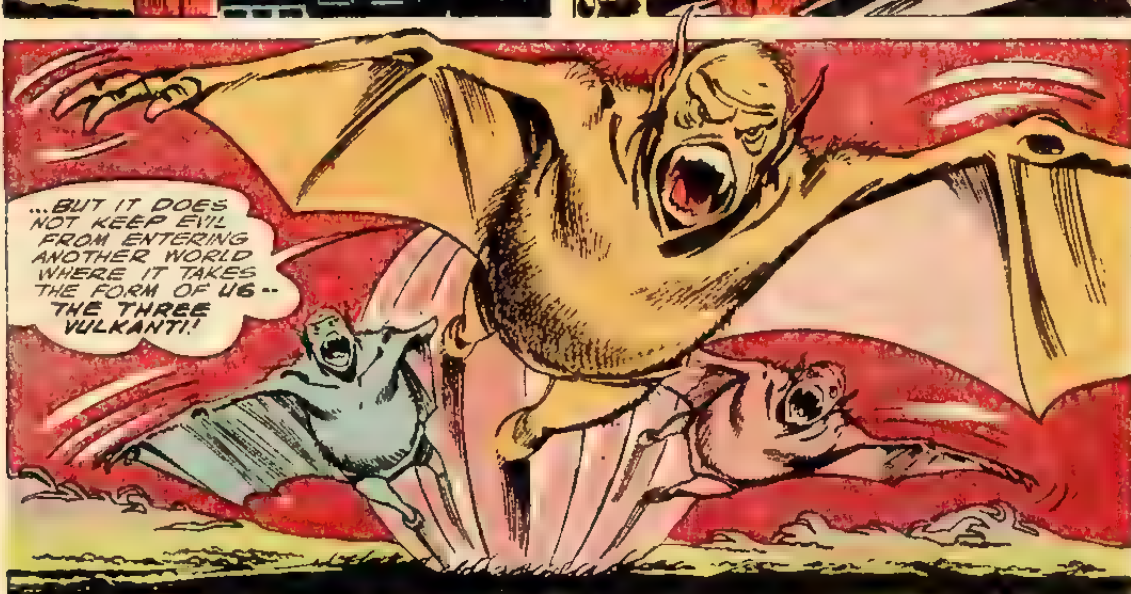
AND IN THIS OTHER WORLD, AT THIS MOMENT...

IT IS DONE, ZORACH?

AYE, MY LORD! ALL THE EVIL IN THIS WORLD GATHERED FROM EVERY ONE OF OUR PEOPLE AND HELD WITHIN THE MACHINE'S UNRELENTING GRIP IN THIS SECRET PLACE!

YES MY GENIUS HAS SUCCEEDED IN CREAT'G WHAT NEVER EXISTED BEFORE--A WORLD WHOSE BEINGS ARE DRAINED FOREVER OF ALL EVIL THOUGHTS, AMBITIONS, IMPULSES...

FOOL, THE MACHINE MAY KEEP OUT EVIL IN YOUR WORLD...



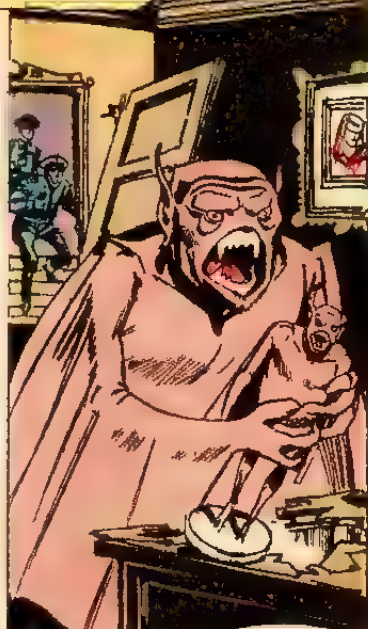
AND AS THE WARP BETWEEN THE WORLDS RESUMES ITS INNOCENT FORM...

NOW WE THREE SCATTER TO SEEK OUT THOSE SACRED RELICS WITH WHICH WE SHALL INSURE DOMINION OVER ALL BEINGS WHO DWELL HERE!

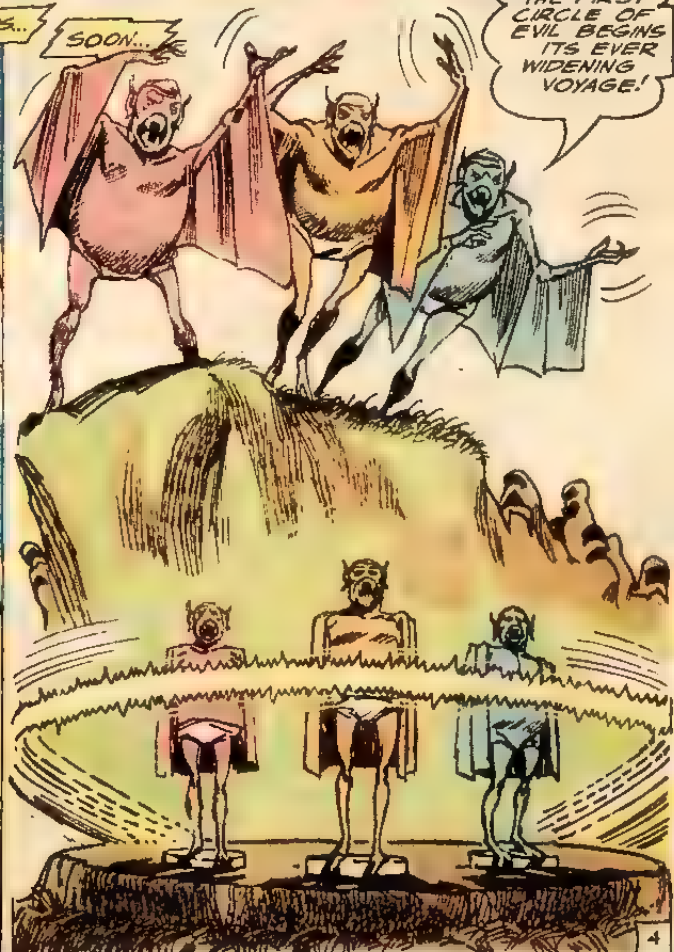
UNTIL OUR TIME IS RIPE-- FAREWELL!



AND ALMOST INSTANTLY IN THREE DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE GLOBE...

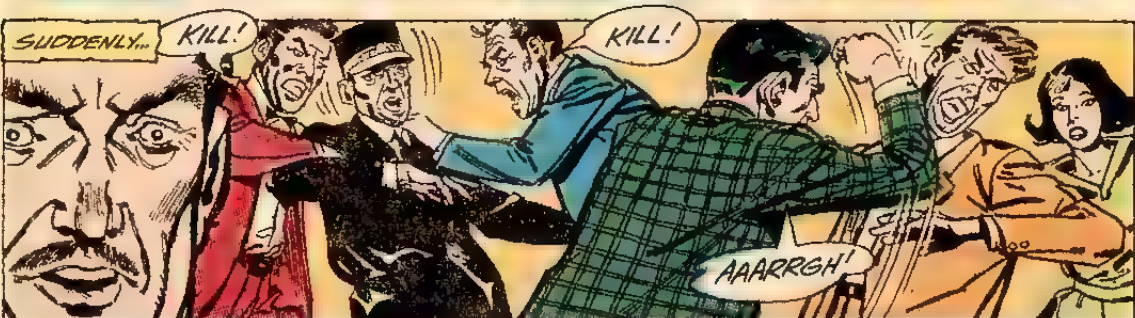


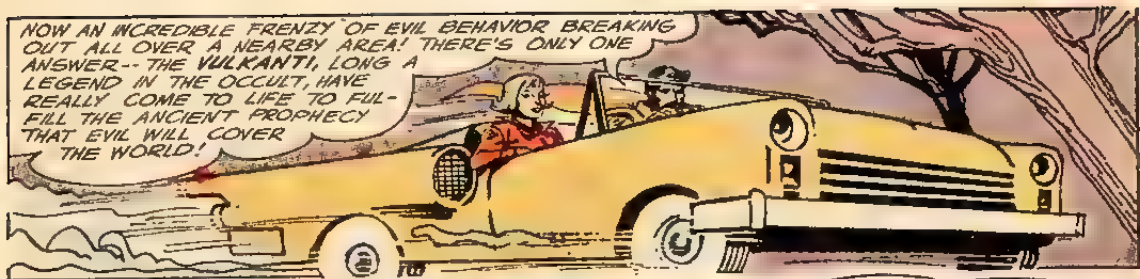
THEN, NEAR THE SAME CROSSROADS...



SOON...

AND AS THE
GLOWING
CIRCLE
SPREADS
AND
TOUCHES A
SPEEDING
COMMUTER
TRAIN...



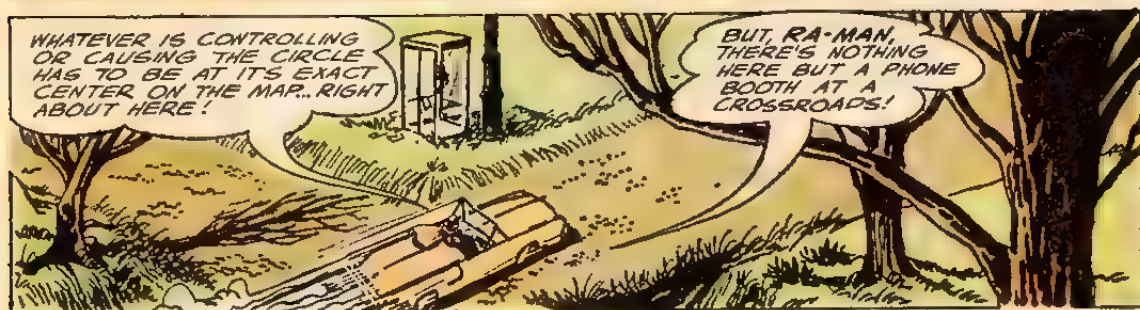


NOW AN INCREDIBLE FRENZY OF EVIL BEHAVIOR BREAKING OUT ALL OVER A NEARBY AREA! THERE'S ONLY ONE ANSWER-- THE VULKANTI, LONG A LEGEND IN THE OCCULT, HAVE REALLY COME TO LIFE TO FULFILL THE ANCIENT PROPHECY THAT EVIL WILL COVER THE WORLD!



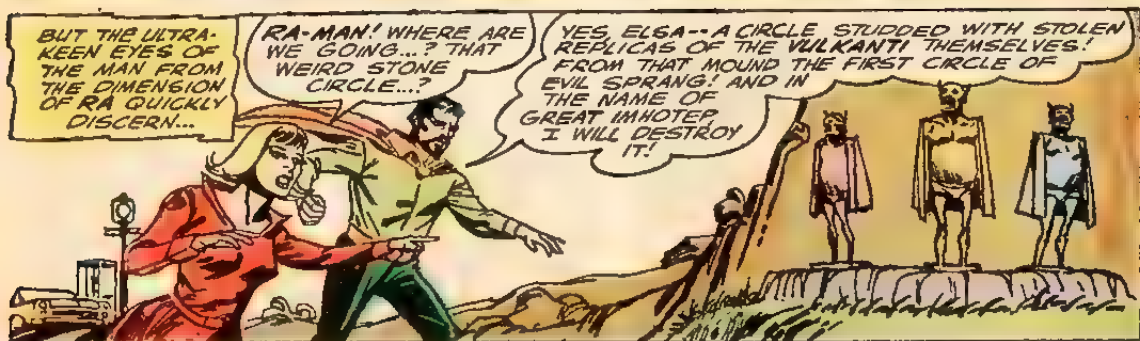
COVER THE WORLD...? BUT HOW?

LOOK AT THE MAP! I'VE DRAWN A LINE THROUGH THE PLACES WHERE THIS FRENZY OF EVIL HAS BROKEN OUT-- THE LINE FORMS A CIRCLE! THE FIRST OF THE LEGENDARY SEVEN CIRCLES OF EVIL THAT EVENTUALLY COULD COVER THE GLOBE!



WHATEVER IS CONTROLLING OR CAUSING THE CIRCLE HAS TO BE AT ITS EXACT CENTER ON THE MAP... RIGHT ABOUT HERE!

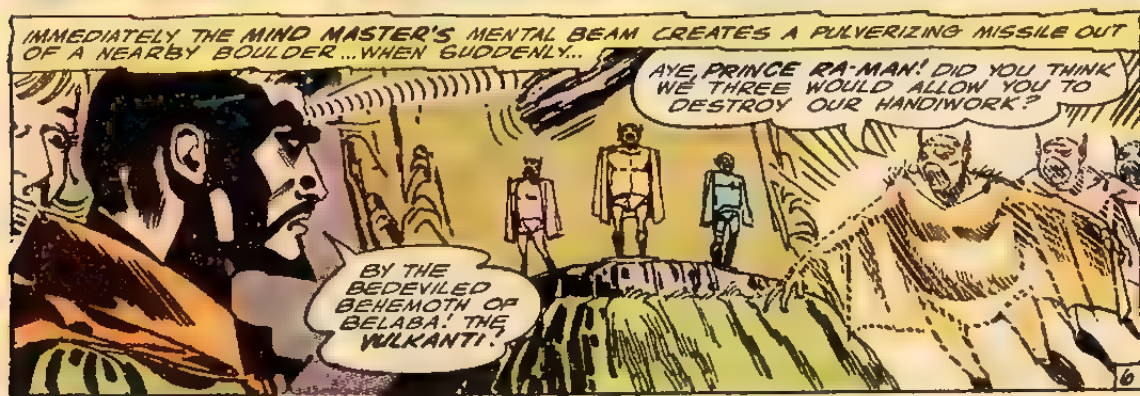
BUT, RA-MAN, THERE'S NOTHING HERE BUT A PHONE BOOTH AT A CROSSROADS!



BUT THE ULTRA-KEEN EYES OF THE MAN FROM THE DIMENSION OF RA QUICKLY DISCERN...

RA-MAN! WHERE ARE WE GOING...? THAT WEIRD STONE CIRCLE...?

YES, ELGA-- A CIRCLE STUDDED WITH STOLEN REPLICAS OF THE VULKANTI THEMSELVES! FROM THAT MOUND THE FIRST CIRCLE OF EVIL SPANG! AND IN THE NAME OF GREAT IMMOTEP I WILL DESTROY IT!



IMMEDIATELY THE MIND MASTER'S MENTAL BEAM CREATES A PULVERIZING MISSILE OUT OF A NEARBY BOULDER...WHEN SUDDENLY...

AYE PRINCE RA-MAN! DID YOU THINK WE THREE WOULD ALLOW YOU TO DESTROY OUR HANDIWORK?

BY THE BEDEVILED BEHEMOTH OF BELABA: THE VULKANTI!

INSTANTLY, FROM THE NEAREST OF THE DEMONS...

SOUND WAVES--
SPLITTING THE
BOULDER!

YOU MAY HAVE POWER
TO MOVE AND CHANGE
OBJECTS, MORTAL--
BUT OUR POWER IS
GREATER--IT COMMANDS
ENERGY ITSELF!

CRAACK
THOOM
WHRAM

AND NOW TO
CRACK YOUR
PUNY BODY AS
SURELY AS THAT
ROCK--!

BAROOM
BRAAM

AIEEEEE!
MY EARS... MY
SKULL IS LIKE
A GREAT
BELL!

WITH AN IMMENSE CONCENTRATION OF
HIS CLANGING BRAIN, THE MAN FROM
RA BATTLES BACK...

PERHAPS A
BIGGER BOULDER
WILL STOP THAT
SONIC TIDAL
WAVE FROM
SWAMP-
ING ME!

BAROOM

AS RA-MAN'S DEFENSE DENTS THE
BATTERING BARRAGE...

RA-MAN!
LOOK OUT!

WHRAAK

ANOTHER
ATTACKING
BEHIND!

AND THEN...

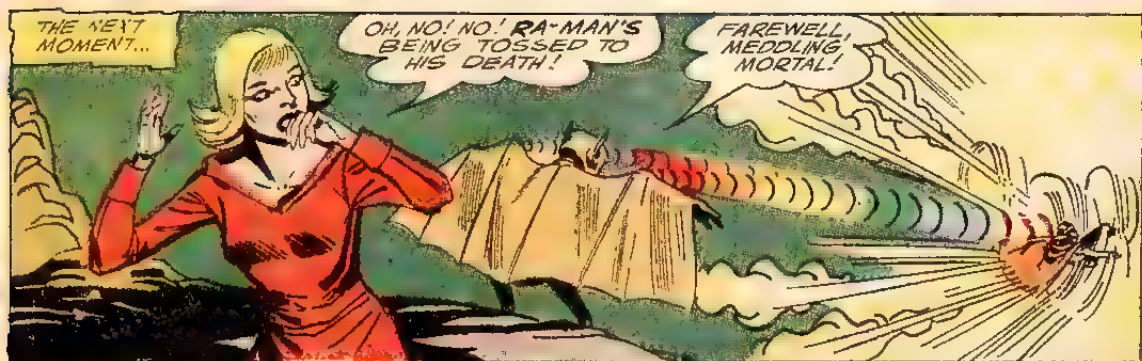
I CAN'T FIGHT
BOTH OF
THEM!

NO MORE MAGICIAN COULD
FOOL! WE ARE IRRESIST-
IBLE-- MY BROTHER
CONTROLS SOUND...
AND I BEND LIGHT
TO MY WILL!

THE NEXT
MOMENT...

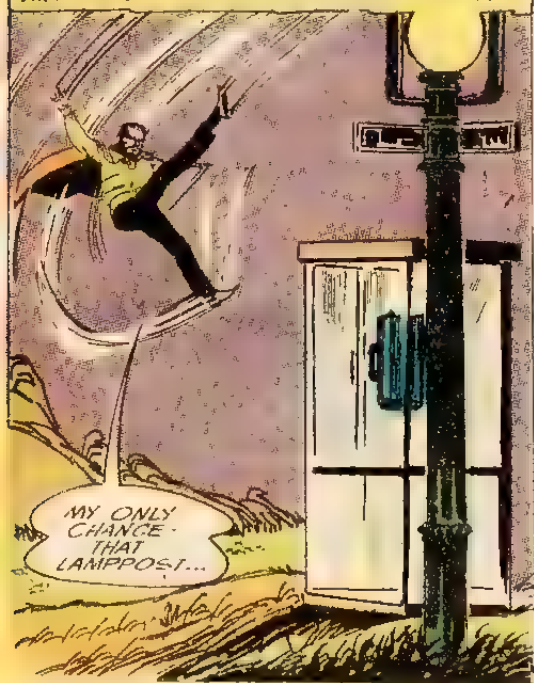
OH, NO! NO! RA-MAN'S
BEING TOSSED TO
HIS DEATH!

FAREWELL!
MEDDLING
MORTAL!

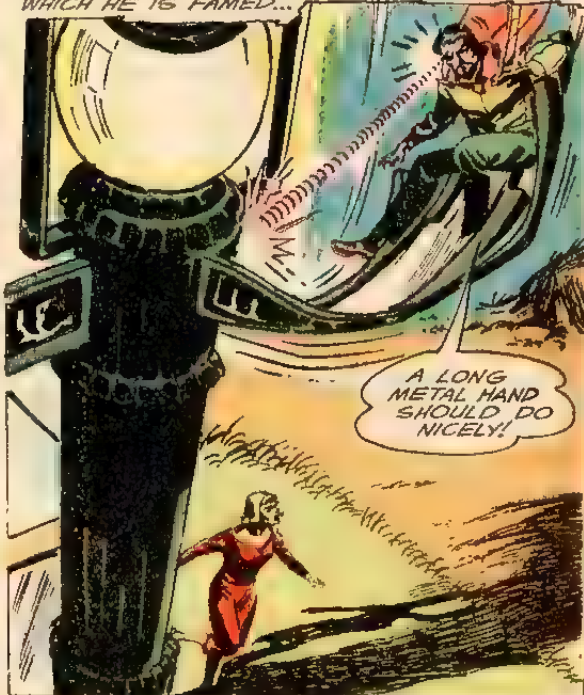


A HELPLESS PUPPET, THE VALIANT MIND
MASTER HURTTLES THROUGH THE AIR...

ONCE MORE USING THE UNIQUE POWER FOR
WHICH HE IS FAMED...



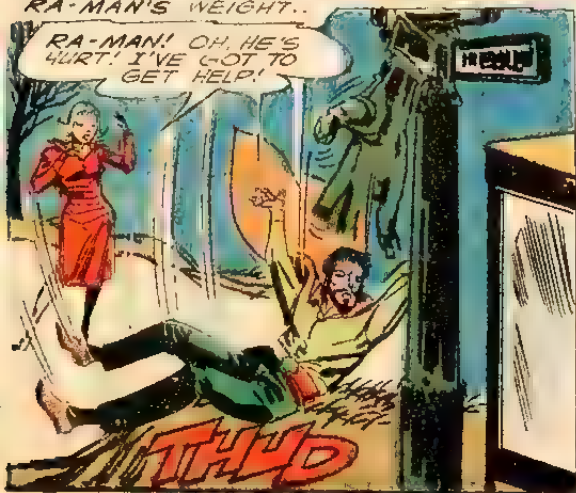
MY ONLY
CHANCE...
THAT
LAMPPOST...



A LONG
METAL HAND
SHOULD DO
NICELY!

BUT AS THE THIN METAL CRUMPLES UNDER
RA-MAN'S WEIGHT...

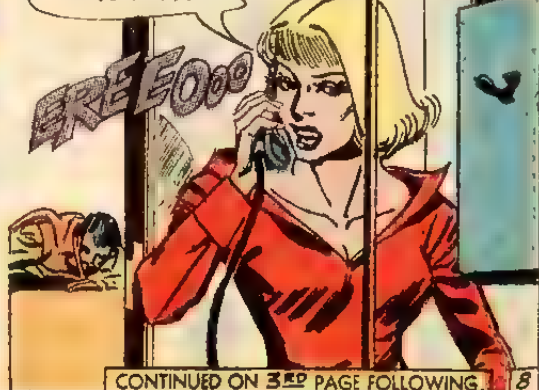
RA-MAN! OH, HE'S
HURT! I'VE GOT TO
GET HELP!



THUD

QUICKLY, ELSA DASHES INTO THE
PHONE BOOTH...

HELLO... HELLO... IT'S NOT
WORKING... JUST WEIRD
SOUNDS COMING
FROM IT!



CONTINUED ON 3RD PAGE FOLLOWING. 18

BUT ELSA HAS NOT RECKONED ON THE RECOVERATIVE POWERS OF THE MIND MASTER, WHO WITH A MIGHTY EFFORT OF WILL...

SHORTLY, AT THE CITY MUSEUM, WHERE AN ANCIENT OBELISK STANDS...

THE NEXT MOMENT.



RA-MAN! YOU'RE UP!

MY ACHES CAN WAIT, ELSA! THIS WORLD'S IN DANGER—DEADLY DANGER FROM THE VULKANTI! MY PRESENT POWERS ARE NOT ENOUGH TO STOP THEM! I MUST SEEK HELP... FROM RA!



AGAIN, GREAT IMHOTEP'S LAMP WILL BE THE KEY TO THE DIMENSIONAL DOOR BETWEEN THE WORLDS!



THEN AFTER AN INCREDIBLE JOURNEY THROUGH THE PLANES AND VOIDS OF TIME AND SPACE WHICH CONSUMES ONLY AN INSTANT...

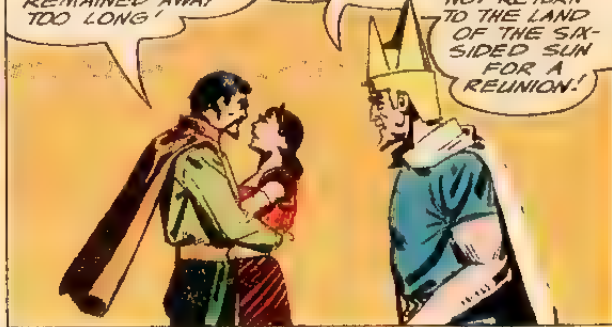
KRANAK, MY FATHER! IS IT NOT... RA-MAN, MY BELOVED?

BY THE GREAT PYRAMID! IT IS RA-MAN! RA-MAN RETURNED AGAIN TO US!



RIMAH, YOU ARE AS LOVELY AS THE SACRED SAPPHIRE OF ISIS! TRULY I REMAINED AWAY TOO LONG!

AYE, RA-MAN, BUT GREAT IMHOTEP'S SPIRIT HAS BEEN RESTLESS--AND THIS TELLS ME YOU DID NOT RETURN TO THE LAND OF THE SIX-SIDED SUN FOR A REUNION!



IMHOTEP... HE TRIED TO CONTACT YOU TOO! THE VULKANTI--THEY'RE LOOSE BACK IN YOUR OLD WORLD! THEY'RE TOO STRONG FOR ME, KRANAK! I NEED GREATER POWERS!

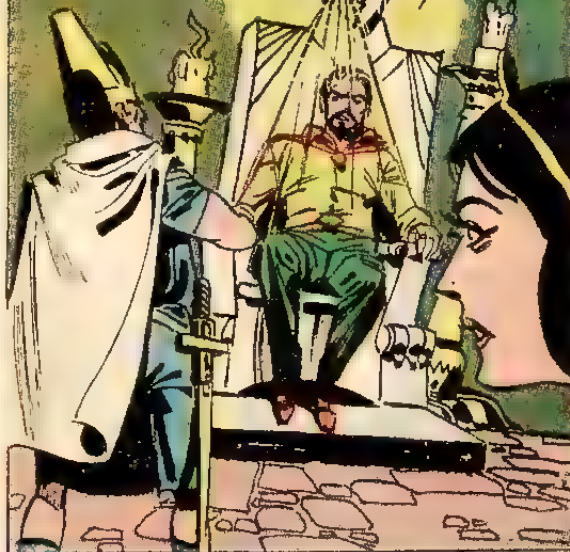
I CAN HELP YOU, RA-MAN--BUT YOUR LIFE WILL BE IN GREAT DANGER!

RELUCTANTLY THE MAN WHO LONG AGO WAS ANCIENT EGYPT'S GREATEST SEER ANSWERS RA-MAN'S REQUEST...

THERE! OUR SIX-SIDED SUN SHINES ON YOU, RA-MAN, WHILE YOU SIT IN THE CHAIR OF ALL POWERFUL, ALL-WISE HORUS...

... AND NOW YOUR FORM WILL FILL WITH THE POTENT POWERS OF TASH-TUT! BUT YOU MUST USE THEM SPARINGLY-- I WARN YOU!

FANTASTIC! I FEEL NEW SPHERES OF MASTERY OPENING UP LIKE WINDOWS INTO LONG LOCKED MYSTERIES!



THEN... RA-MAN... MUST YOU LEAVE AGAIN SO SOON?

YOU KNOW I MUST, RIMAN-- FOR FATE HAS PROCLAIMED ME THE GUARDIAN OF OUR OLD WORLD, AND AS LONG AS IT IS THREATENED BY ANY SUPERNATURAL MENACE MY PLACE IS THERE!... FAREWELL!

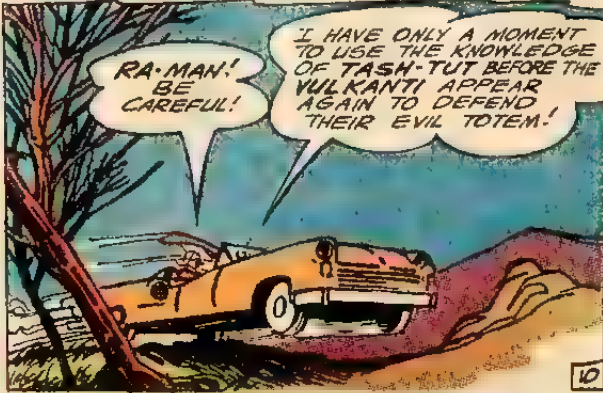
IN A TWINKLING, THE REINCARNATION OF A LONG DEAD EGYPTIAN NOBLEMAN HURTLIES ACROSS THE ILLIMITABLE BARRIERS BETWEEN THE WORLDS, AND...

HO-HUM! ANOTHER QUIET DAY-- NOTHING EVER HAPPENS AROUND THIS PLACE!

IN NO TIME, RA-MAN AND ELSA ARE RACING OUT OF THE CITY TOWARD THE HILLSIDE...

RA-MAN! BE CAREFUL!

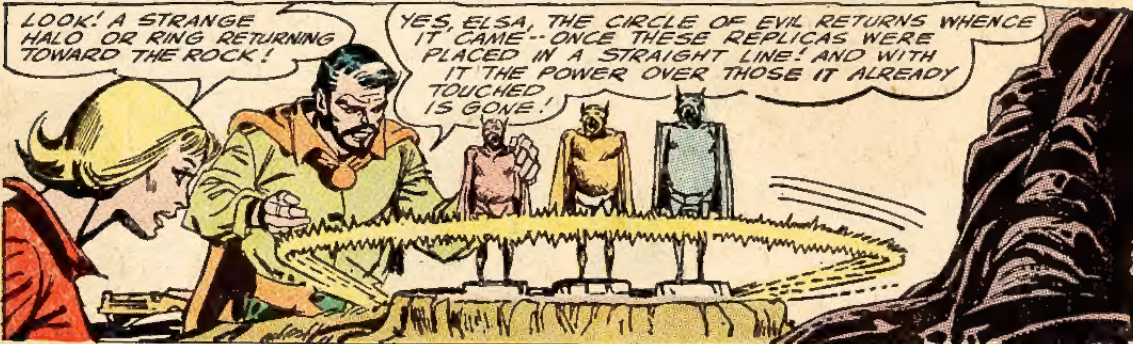
I HAVE ONLY A MOMENT TO USE THE KNOWLEDGE OF TASH-TUT BEFORE THE VULKANTI APPEAR AGAIN TO DEFEND THEIR EVIL TOTEM!



QUICKLY THE MAN FROM RA REARRANGES THE REPLICAS OF THE TRIO OF EVIL AS...

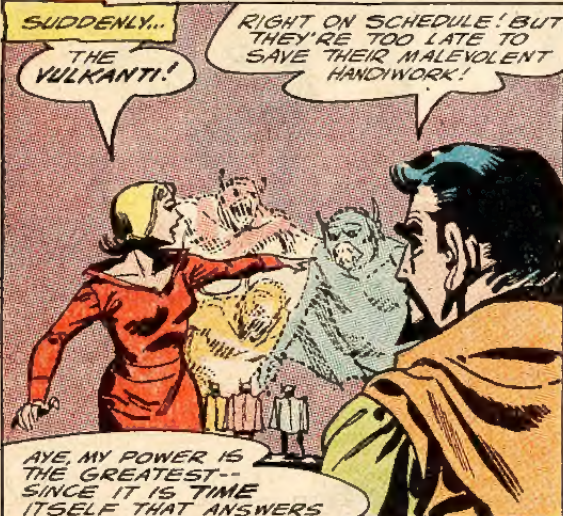
LOOK! A STRANGE
HALO OR RING RETURNING
TOWARD THE ROCK!

YES, ELSA, THE CIRCLE OF EVIL RETURNS WHENCE
IT CAME--ONCE THESE REPLICAS WERE
PLACED IN A STRAIGHT LINE! AND WITH
IT THE POWER OVER THOSE IT ALREADY
TOUCHED IS GONE!



SUDDENLY...
THE
VULKANTI!

RIGHT ON SCHEDULE! BUT
THEY'RE TOO LATE TO
SAVE THEIR MALEVOLENT
HANDWORK!



AYE, MY POWER IS
THE GREATEST--
SINCE IT IS TIME
ITSELF THAT ANSWERS
MY COMMAND! FOOL, I
SHALL SEND YOU BACK
A THOUSAND YEARS INTO
LIMBO!



GREAT
ISIS!

SO, FINEY SORCERER,
OUR POWERS DID NOT
VANQUISH YOU BEFORE--
THEN FEEL THE POWER
OF OUR OTHER
BROTHER...THE
GREATEST OF ALL!



RA-MAN-- HE'S FADING
AWAY! THE VULKANTI--
IT'S SENT HIM BACK
IN TIME! OH, NO!

HEE-
HA

BUT THEN...

OVER THERE...
RA-MAN!
BUT HOW--?

SIMPLE, MY DEAR! ONE OF THE
POWERS OF TASH-TUT--
INVISIBILITY!

SMASH HIM! DESTROY
HIM! USE ALL OUR POWERS
AT ONE TIME!

FROM ALL SIDES, THE TERRIBLE
TRIO BOMBARD THE PRINCE OF
THE SUPERNATURAL...

NOW WE HAVE THIS
ARROGANT MEDDLER
AT OUR MERCY!
HE CANNOT
DEFY OUR
TRIPLE ATTACK!

CAN'T
I?

MASTER OF EVIL, AID YOUR
SERVANTS! THE MORTAL
STOPS OUR INVINCIBLE
POWERS WITH EVEN
GREATER ENERGY!

AYE, AND NOW
YOU WILL FEEL
THE FULL POWERS
OF TASH-TUT!

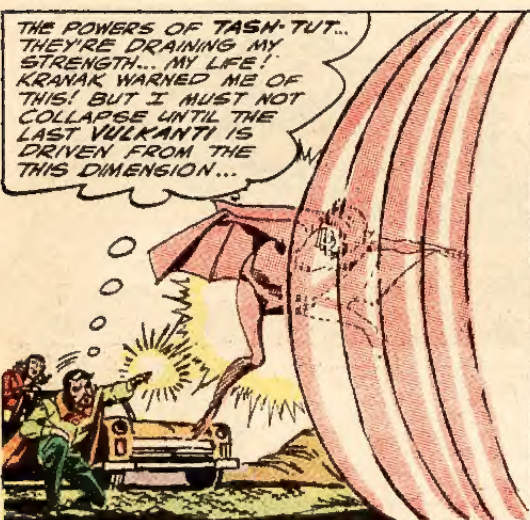
RA-MAN'S
ASTOUNDING
COUNTER-
ATTACK
BATTERS
HIS THREE
DEMONIC
FOES...

BACK! BACK! RETREAT! HE
IS USING THE SAME KIND
OF FORCE THAT
IMPRISONED US IN
THE OTHER DIMENSION!

THAT PHONE
BOOTH... WHY
DO THEY FLEE
TOWARD IT?

AND THEN...

THERE'S YOUR
ANSWER, ELSA--
IT CHANGED FORM!
IT'S THE WARP BETWEEN
THIS WORLD AND WHATEVER
WORLD SPAWNED THESE
MENACES! GOT TO KEEP
DRIVING THEM BACK...
BUT I'M GROWING
WEAKER!..



THE POWERS OF TASH-TUT...
THEY'RE DRAINING MY
STRENGTH... MY LIFE!
KRAKAK WARNED ME OF
THIS! BUT I MUST NOT
COLLAPSE UNTIL THE
LAST VULKANTI IS
DRIVEN FROM THE
THIS DIMENSION...

AGAIN, RA-MAN'S MARVELOUS RECUPERA-
TIVE POWERS RESTORE HIS SINEWY
PHYSIQUE... AND SHORTLY...



WHAT
NUMBER
ARE YOU
CALLING,
PLEASE?

IT'S ALL RIGHT OPERATOR--
I JUST REMEMBERED
THE PARTY I WAS
AFTER IS GONE...
PERMANENTLY!
THANK YOU!



THEN...

MIGHTY
HORUS...I
THANK YOU...
THEY ARE
GONE! AND
JUST AS MY
STRENGTH
GAVE OUT...

FANTASTIC! THAT WEIRD WARP'S
RETURNING TO NORMAL...
RETURNING TO ITS PHONE
BOOTH FORM! NO WONDER
I COULDN'T GET A CALL
THROUGH ON IT BEFORE!



BUT I'LL BE BACK AGAIN
IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF
HOUSE OF SECRETS--
AND BY THE SIX-
SIDED SUN, I
PROMISE YOU AN
ADVENTURE SO
WEIRD THAT
YOU'LL BE
CALLING ON ME,
PRINCE RA-MAN,
FOR HELP!

THE END

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT AND CIRCULATION (Act of October 23, 1962; Section 4369, Title 39, U.S. Code)

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I certify that the statements made by me above are correct and complete.
Irwin Donenfeld, Business Manager.

WORLD of the WEIRD

FRIDAY, THE 13th

One of the most widely spread superstitions in the whole world concerns Friday, the 13th. This is commonly believed to be the day of misfortune, and the belief extends so far back in history that no one can now trace its origin. In ancient Scandinavian legends is found the story of twelve gods feasting together who were betrayed by a thirteenth, Luki, who murdered one of the twelve gods on the day of misfortune, Friday.

Throughout history are countless cases of misfortune that befell helpless people on the dreaded day. And in modern times, this fear is held by more people than ever before. Psychologists have a name for this fear of "thirteen." It is known as triskaidekaphobia.

To combat this superstition in modern times, a National Society of Thirteen Against Superstition, Prejudice and Fear, was founded in 1946. This group meets every Friday, the 13th. A similar society meets in London, calling itself the Thirteen Club. And a Lucky 13 Club, composed of Missouri's 13 presidential electors, made President Eisenhower an honorary president of the club, partly because his name Ike Eisenhower adds up to 13 letters.

In American history, the superstition never made any headway. The history of the United States began with 13 colonies. The Great Seal of the U.S.A. has 13 stripes, 13 arrows, 13 clouds, 13 laurel leaves, 13 berries, and 13 feathers in each wing. "The Star-Spangled Banner" was written on September 13, 1814. Construction of the White House began on Friday the 13th, and George Washington was made Commander-in-Chief on that date. Finally, our motto, E Pluribus Unum contains 13 letters!

FACTS WITH THE DEVIL

The pact with the devil has been used by writers as the basis of some famous literary and musical works. But the records contain many confessions by people who declared they had made such a pact. One such person, Stevenote de Audebert, in 1616, actually produced in court what purported to be the contract she had made

with Satan. And in 1664, Elizabeth Style, an Englishwoman, confessed in court to having made a pact with the Devil, whereby she would be granted twelve years of wealth and elegance.

In the Bibliotheque Nationale, in Paris, proposes a pact claimed to be made with the Devil by Urbain Grandier, a magician of the 17th century. Grandier enjoyed great wealth and success for the exact number of years under the pact, which was terminated in the exact year listed on the contract, 1634—for in that year, he was executed.

THE MAGIC MESA

A legend persists concerning an Indian tribe living in Mexico in the middle part of the 18th century. Although surrounded by hostile tribes, and although the tribe was known to possess large stores of gold and silver which its members fashioned into intricate trinkets, the tribe was never attacked, and no attempt was ever made to loot it of its precious belongings. The reason for this was the belief held by almost all other tribes that this one was protected by a special god.

The tribe made its home at the base of a large mesa, a table of rock that rose to a height of almost 500 feet, with precipitous sides. The only means of reaching it was a natural stair of stone. It was up this stone staircase that the Indians climbed to store their valuables atop the 500-foot mesa.

And it was up this stone staircase that a hostile Indian climbed one night—the first one ever to defy the wrath of the unknown god. The thieving Indian was sighted by a scout, reaching the top. But before he could give the alarm, a storm arose, reaching such violence that it tore away the stone steps, trapping the thief on the top.

All attempts by the Indians after that to ascend the mesa failed—and even their kind-hearted attempts to send food up to the would-be thief were in vain.

For all anyone knows, the treasure is still up there, on that unknown mesa—and still guarded by some unknown god!